BPL families in Uttar Pradesh

3070. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had not properly identified the poor families living below the poverty line in U.P., particularly, in Mau and Azamgarh Districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of BPL families living in Mau and Azamgarh districts as per the latest Government assessment.

(c) whether Fair Price Shops in the above districts are not functioning well and quality of foodgrains supplied through PDS is of very poor quality; and

(d) if so, what efforts Government propose to make for proper identification of BPL families in the above districts as well as for supply of quality foodgrains through PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) As per the information received, the Government of Uttar Pradesh have identified the poor families in the State including the districts of Mau and Azamgarh living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in the light of poverty estimates of Planning Commission for the year 1993-94 and as per the parameters for identification laid down by the State Government.

(b) The number of BPL families identified in the districts of Mau and Azamgarh is 1,47,460 and 2,75,900 respectively.

(c) and (d) The Fair Price Shops in both the above districts are functioning regularly and effectively. The quality of foodgrains supplied through PDS is satisfactory.

Working of Bureau of Indian Standard

3071. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have streamlined the working of Bureau of Indian Standard which was found to be lenient in enforcing standards in the case of bottled drinking water in March, 2003; and

(b) the details in this regard?